

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**National Park Service****General Management Plan Revision,
Final Environmental Impact Statement,
Petrified Forest National Park, AZ**

AGENCY: National Park Service,
Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability of the Record of Decision on the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the General Management Plan Revision, Petrified Forest National Park.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, 83 Stat. 852, 853, codified as amended at 42 U.S.C. § 4332(2)(C), the National Park Service announces the availability of the Record of Decision for the General Management Plan Revision, Petrified Forest National Park, Arizona. On October 15, 2004, the Director, Intermountain Region, approved the Record of Decision for the project. As soon as practicable, the National Park Service will begin to implement the preferred alternative contained in the FEIS issued on August 25, 2005. The following course of action will occur under the selected alternative: Reusing and maintaining the historic integrity of Painted Desert headquarters complex will be a priority. Visitor services at Painted Desert Inn (rehabilitated) will be expanded. Facility improvements will be made at Rainbow Forest. Park lands will be managed similar to now, but with greater protection for natural and cultural resources from increased monitoring and adapting to new information. Some trails and turnouts will be added, and visitor hours will be expanded in the north. Most park collections will be housed in a new facility. This course of action, along with a no action alternative and two other action alternatives were analyzed in the Draft and Final Environmental Impact Statements. The full range of foreseeable environmental consequences was assessed, and appropriate mitigating measures were identified.

The Record of Decision includes a statement of the decision made, synopsis of other alternatives considered, the basis for the decision, a description of the environmentally preferable alternative, a finding on impairment of park resources and values, a listing of measures to minimize environmental harm, an overview of public involvement in the decision-making process, and a conclusion.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lee Baiza, Superintendent, Petrified Forest National Park, P.O. Box 2217, Petrified Forest National Park, Arizona 86028, (928) 524-6228, lee_baiza@nps.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Copies of the Record of Decision are available from the Superintendent listed above or on the Internet at: <http://planning.nps.gov/plans.cfm>.

Dated: October 15, 2004.

Stephen P. Martin,

Director, Intermountain Region, National Park Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**National Park Service****Notice of Availability of the Final
Environmental Impact Statement for
the Arrowhead-Weston Transmission
Line River Crossing/Right-of-Way
Request, Saint Croix National Scenic
Riverway, WI**

AGENCY: National Park Service.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 102(2) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the National Park Service (NPS) announces the availability of the final environmental impact statement (FEIS) for the Arrowhead-Weston Transmission Line River Crossing/Right-of-Way Request, Saint Croix National Scenic Riverway, Wisconsin.

DATES: There will be a 30-day waiting period before the record of decision is signed on the final from the day the Environmental Protection Agency publishes its notice of availability in the **Federal Register**.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the FEIS will be sent to agencies, Tribes, and individuals that made substantive comments on the draft EIS, and to public libraries throughout the project area. Please check the Saint Croix National Scenic Riverway (SACN) website for a listing of the libraries to which the FEIS will be sent. The FEIS is approximately 600 pages in length with many figures and oversize color plates. Due to the size of the document, it was not possible to provide it over the Internet. A limited number of hardcopies are available upon request on a first-come first serve basis. Additional copies are available on compact disk. To request a hardcopy of the FEIS or a copy on compact disk, please write to the Superintendent, Saint Croix National Scenic Riverway, P.O. Box 708, St. Croix Falls, WI 54024, Attention: Kevin Iverson or telephone him at 715-483-3284, Extension 606.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jill Medland, Planning and Compliance Specialist, Saint Croix National Scenic Riverway, P.O. Box 708, 401 Hamilton Street, St. Croix Falls, WI 54024, or by telephone 715-483-3284, Extension 609.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Arrowhead-Weston Project (Project) is a 345kV Electric Transmission Line proposed by Minnesota Power, Wisconsin Public Service Corporation, and American Transmission Company (Applicant) that would run for 220 miles from Duluth, Minnesota, to Wausau, Wisconsin. The governmental entity with approval authority for the overall Project is the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSCW). The PSCW approved the Project in 2001 and re-approved it in 2003. According to the Applicant, and as reflected in the PSCW decision, the purpose of the overall Project is to: (1) Strengthen the bulk transmission system by providing a second high-capacity connection across the Minnesota-Wisconsin interface; and (2) to transmit electricity from the upper Midwest to markets in the eastern Wisconsin area.

The State-approved route of the Project would cross the Namekagon River, which is part of the Riverway, in Washburn County at a location approximately 10 miles downstream of the city of Hayward, Wisconsin. The NPS has received a right-of-way (ROW) request from the Applicant to cross the Riverway with the State-approved Project. To reach a decision about the ROW request and comply with the NEPA, the NPS is preparing an EIS. The Corps of Engineers is a cooperating agency on the EIS, since they would also need to issue a permit for the river crossing.

The Applicants propose to cross the Namekagon River at an existing 161kV electric transmission line corridor granted to Xcel Energy as an easement by private landowners prior to NPS land acquisition in the area. All alternatives (except no action) would require additional right-of-way from the NPS. The following alternatives are under consideration for crossing the Namekagon River:

No Action (Deny ROW Request): 161kV line as present on 70' wood poles (would require that the utilities go around the Namekagon River and reopening of the State process);

Alternative 1: Double circuit the 345kV and 161kV lines overhead on 145-150' single steel poles (Applicant's preferred);

Long-span Option: Alternative 1 using long-span conductors (shorter poles set